

to meaningless and irreverent profanity, I at once take his mental measure, and it's a small one, too." There is no excuse for the all-too-prevalent habit of interlarding speech with strange oaths and titles of the Deity. No young man who would grow into self-restrained and temperate manhood can afford to let this foolish custom take hold of him. Most important of all, the swearer sins against Him whose holy name is not to be taken in vain.

If your society is to be a live and progressive one during the year, now is the time to lay definite summer plans. You cannot happen to have a good summer; you must prepare for it. Detailed methods should now be carefully considered, but most important of all is the spiritual preparation. Prayerfully strive to increase the interest of the members in things spiritual. Dwell much in your service upon the deep themes of consecration and surrender.

It is beautiful to see young Christians as the days pass, growing more and more confident and heroic in their confessions of Christ. At first they are shy, retiring, timid and disposed to shrink from public revealing of themselves. But if, as they receive more of the spirit of God in their heart, they grow more courageous in speaking for Christ and showing their colors, they prove that they are true disciples, learners, growing in grace.

Charles Dudley Warner, in "Harper's Magazine," says: "Wholly apart from its religious, or from its ethical value, the Bible is the one book that no intelligent person who wishes to come into contact with the world of thought, and to share the ideas of the great minds of the Christian era, can afford to be ignorant of. It is not a question of religion, or of theology, or of dogma; it is a question of general intelligence."

#### Giving She Still Had

That which really enriches one's life is not what we keep but that which we give out. Solomon uttered a great truth when he said, "There is that which scattereth and yet enriches, and there is that which withholdeth more than is meet and it tendeth to poverty." The precious ointment given out by Mary of Bethany, did far more to enrich her life than the withholding of it would have done. Keeping it the ointment would have wasted away, pouring it on Jesus' feet it still lives in the memory of all who name the blessed name of Jesus. The following incident beautifully illustrates this truth, and our young people will find in it both an inspiration and encouragement:

In Connecticut a few years ago lived a lady who had a beautiful flower-garden in which she took great pride. The whole neighborhood was proud of it, too, and people drove miles to see it. She fastened two large baskets on the outside of her fence next to the

road, and every morning these were filled with cut flowers—the large, showy kinds in one basket, and the delicate, fragile kinds in the other. All the schoolchildren going by helped themselves, and studied the better for it; and business men took a breath of fragrance into their dusty offices which helped the day along. Even the tramps were welcome to all the beauty they could get into their forlorn lives.

"You cut such quantities," some one said to her; "aren't you afraid you will rob yourself?"

"The more I cut, the more I have," she answered. "Don't you know that if plants are allowed to go to seed, they stop blooming? I love to give pleasure; and it is profit as well, for my liberal cutting is the secret of my beautiful garden. I am like the man in Pilgrim's Progress—the more I give away, the more I have."

It is not alone in the garden that this rule holds good. We are constantly learning that giving does not make us poor, but rich; that the more we give to our fellow-men of love and sympathy and kindness, the higher swell the fountains of these feelings within our hearts.

#### A Brief Sermon

Mr. Moody has been for sometime furnishing one minute sermons for a New York paper, and he it said that some of these sermons contains as much gospel truth as many a half hour sermon. Here is one that will be specially helpful to the young people:

There is not a slave to any vice that may not be set free at once if he will let the Son of God save him. There is not a drunkard reeling down to a drunkard's grave and going to a drunkard's eternity but that the Son of God will save him if he will call on Him for mercy.

### The Christian Life

#### Heart to Heart

Because thy love hath sought me,  
All mine is thine, and thine is mine;  
Because thy blood has bought me,  
I will not be mine own, but thine.

I lift my heart to thy heart—  
Thy heart, sole resting-place for mine;  
Shall not thy heart crave for my heart,  
And shall not mine crave back for thine?

—C. G. Rossetti.

#### PRAYER MEETING TOPICS

##### THE PROPHETS—ISAIAH—No. 3

##### I. Prophecies Concerning Christ

1. Born of a virgin. Is. 7 : 14. Matt. 1 : 23. Is. 8 : 8.
2. A light to the Gentiles. Is. 9 : 2 ; 42 : 6 ; 49 : 6. Luke 2 : 32 ; Acts 13 : 47.
3. His meekness and quietness. Is. 42 : 1 4. Matt. 12 : 17-21. Is. 53 : 7, 8. Acts 8 : 26 35.
4. His miracles of healing and the main facts of his mission shown. Is. 42 : 7 ; 61 : 1-3. Luke 4 : 16 21.
5. The healer of His people. Is. 53 : 4.

Matt. 8 : 16, 17.

6. Residence in Capernaum in the borders of Zebulun and Naphthalim. Is. 9 : 1, 2. Matt. 4 : 12-16.

7. The coming of John the Baptist. Is. 40 : 3. Matt. 3 : 3.

8. The obstinacy and unbelief of the people. Is. 6 : 9, 10. Matt. 13 : 14, 15.

9. The lip service of the Jews. Is. 29 : 13. Matt. 15 : 8, 9.

10. Christ's triumphal entry in Jerusalem on an ass. Is. 62 : 11. Matt. 21 : 5.

11. Defilement of the Temple. Is. 56 : 7. Matt. 21 : 13.

12. The endless suffering of the damned. Is. 66 : 24. Mark. 9 : 44.

13. Christ numbered with transgressors. Is. 53 : 12. Mark. 15 : 28. Luke 22 : 37.

14. Character of those who heard Him. Is. 54 : 13. John. 6 : 45.

15. Unbelief of the Jews in Jesus despite His miracles. Is. 53 : 1. John 12 : 38.

16. Sure mercies of David in Christ. Is. 55 : 3. Acts 13 : 34.

#### II. Remarks

In these references those to the Gospel or other portions of the New Testament are made to show that the Apostles and inspired writers and even Jesus himself quoted these passages from Isaiah and applied them.

2. The sacred writers have clearly demonstrated that they do not always apply a prophecy in its primary signification, but that Scripture is capable of two interpretations, viz., a primary, or that for which it was spoken by the prophet, and a secondary, or an application to a situation so clearly parallel to the first that it does no violence to Scripture to apply it to the other.

3. Notice how full Isaiah is of passages that apply to Christ and His work.

4. Isaiah has well been named the Gospel prophet.

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#### Wings or Weights

Epworth Herald.

An eaglet lay in its nest among the mountain crags. It was bitterly complaining of some growing weights upon its back and sides.

It grumbled: "Here are these bundles of bones and feathers to weigh me down. They are growing bigger and heavier every day. Why hamper a little creature like me with such useless burdens? Certainly I do not want to stay forever cooped up here, but how shall I ever get away, if these grow much more." Just then the mother bird approached the nest, shook it up, pushed the trembling little one to the verge—crowded him off. In terror, scarce knowing what he did, he lifted those weights, fluttered them, they broke his fall, swept him along in delight through the mountain air. What he grumbled at as weights were wings.

Would no bird ever make so foolish a blunder? Is their instinct too true for that? Well, men often do make it. God's laws they grumble at, as though these were gall-ing weights to drag them down. Yea, worse,